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NEWS

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March 6, 2003

For Immediate Release:

EIU DANCERS TO PRESENT ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT

CHARLESTON – The Eastern Illinois University Dancers will present three showings of their annual spring concert, "Reflections," later this month.

Shows have been scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 23, on the stage of McAfee Gym. Doors open 30 minutes prior to curtain time, and admission is free to all.

The concert features traditional forms of modern, ballet, tap and jazz to varied musical artists such as Guns and Roses, Annie Lenox, Jimmy Hendrix, Sarah McLaughlin, Lee Greenwood, Kacheturian and Beethoven. There also will be original music written for the concert, and several musical groups will perform.

The EIU Dancers is a recognized student organization sponsored by the university's Department of Physical Education, and its members perform under the direction of faculty members Nancy Nordtvedt and Jeanna McFarland. This year's group is made up of 26 university students, both male and female, with many different majors. Auditions are held in September, and rehearsals start immediately for the spring concert.

There has been an annual spring concert sponsored by the Department of Physical Education since 1932, and originally the performances consisted of modern dance only.

Nordtvedt studied dance in Kansas, Missouri and California, and danced professionally in Wichita, Kan. She taught for four years at Montana State University, where she also had a dance group, before coming to EIU.

McFarland, a graduate of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, furthered her dance studies in New York City at different studios, including those of Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Finus Jung and Luigi. She came to Eastern in 1991.